Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
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have grown up in such quaint and strange forms? Why the leaves of the Sundew and Pinguicula catch flies? What the strange hood of the Aconite means? Why the Sage has specialized its stamens into such curious hammers? These and dozens of similar questions can easily be asked. In each case it is possible to answer that it is done in connection with insect life. When you see a flower that has departed from the regular form, you may generally be quite sure that it has done so in answer to an irritation caused by insects. It is not invariably so, but often enough for it to be the rule and not the exception. I do not intend now to give you special examples, but I want to call your attention to the fact, in order that you may make these observations for yourselves, and trace the links which bind the various branches of animal and vegetable life into one long chain, of which no link can be spared.

The pitcher plants will well repay careful and minute examination. The beautiful structure of the rim alone must strike even a careless observer, and when we trace the manner in which the plant has made so much out of such a simple form as a leaf, it will surely raise curiosity and interest enough to make us more alive to the natural world around us. From the chapters I have given you from Prof. Geddes' book, you will understand the economy of the pitchers, and now I hope you will carefully draw them, and give them a new place in your nature note-books.

House of Education.—Students who wish to enter at Christmas, and ladies who wish to have probationers for the Christmas holidays, should write as early as possible to the Secretary, House of Education, Ambleside.

The principal new departures for this term are the Swedish and Leipsic Cardboard Sloyd and Wood-carving.

Our definition of the aim of education is to send out a human being at his best, physically, mentally, morally and spiritually, with the enthusiasms of religion, of the good life, of nature, of knowledge, of art, of manual labour.

With a view to attain the last of these enthusiasms we are laying great stress upon Sloyd and a dozen other handicrafts, such as bookbinding, basketwork, etc.

The students take great interest in their various handicrafts, and find that the possession of this kind of knowledge makes them most acceptable to children of all ages.

Mothers' Education Course.—The examinations are due in the first week of December. We hope that more of the mothers who belong to the course will be able to take the examinations this time.

Parents' Review School.—We are glad to find that the school is increasing in numbers, and the children show an ever-increasing interest in their work.

The next examination papers will be sent out on December 15th.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Chairman of Committee: Dr. A. T. Schofield. *Vice-Chairman:* Algernon C. P. Coote, Esq., M.A. *Hon. Org. Sec.:* H. Perrin, Esq. *Secretary:* Miss Paterson. Pamphlets giving full particulars of the work of the Union, and the *Parents' Review* (6*d.* monthly), the organ of the Society, may be obtained from the Secretary, 28, Victoria Street, S.W., to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent.

CENTRAL (BELGRAVIA) BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:*
A course of ten Lectures to ladies is being delivered by Miss Helen Webb, M.B., on Mondays, from 4.30 to 6, which commenced Oct. 8th, at 9, Pembridge Gardens, W. (one minute from Notting Hill Gate Station); subject:—"Physiology in connection with Education." Fee for the course 25/-.

A course of eight Lessons in Brush-Drawing has also been arranged, to be conducted by Mr. E. Cooke. Fee, one guinea. For all particulars apply to Miss Paterson, 28, Victoria street.

The local committee met on Oct. 3rd, when arrangements were discussed for the usual monthly lectures, particulars of which will be duly announced.

HAMPSTEAD BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. C. Herbert-Smith, The Retreat, North End, Hampstead. The next Meeting will be held on Nov. 21st., when a paper will be read by Mrs. Stewart Headlam, on "The management of money; a necessary instruction for children."

STREATHAM BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Strode, Bankside, Leigham-court Road, S.W.

WOODFORD AND WANSTEAD BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Spedding Curwen, Bywell, South Woodford. The class for Brushwork has been resumed under Mr. E. Cooke.

A paper will be read by Mrs. Henry Fowler, early in November, on "The Religious Training of Children."

In December, Dr. Albert Wilson will speak on "The Mental Culture of Child-Life."

In January, 1895, two Lectures will be given by Mr. C. Carns-Wilson, on "Popular Geology," especially intended to interest young people during their holidays.

BAYSWATER BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Franklin, 9, Pembridge Gardens.

CROUCH END.—*Hon Sec. (pro tem.):* Dr. G. Handcock, 2, Christchurch Road.

WATFORD.—A meeting to inaugurate a branch here is announced, under the auspices of the Hon. Mrs. Holland-Hibbert. For particulars apply to Miss Sharland, S. Andrew's, Watford.

READING BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mr. William Salmon, 56, London Street. The annual meeting of this branch was called for Oct. 27th, when the accounts and report for the past year were to be presented.

SOUTHDOWN BRANCH:—

Brighton Centre.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. William Borrer, Pakyns Manor, Hurstpierpoint.

Eastbourne Centre.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. G. F. Butt, Ingleside, Selwyn Road.

Hastings and St. Leonard's Centre.—Hon Sec.: Mrs Edward Venables, St. Bernard's Lodge, St. Leonard's. The following meetings have been already arranged for the coming session:—

January 17th.—The Hon. and Rev. Edward Lyttelton, Head Master of Haileybury College, on "The true meaning of Education."

Feb.—Mrs. Francis Steinthal, Demonstration lesson in Modelling.

March.—Rev. E. B. Ottley, Vicar of Eastbourne, on "The Religious training of children."

April or May.—Dr. Oakley Higgens, on "The formation of habit."

Also during the winter one or two discussion meetings.

SHEFFIELD BRANCH.—*Hon. Secs.:* Mrs. Newton Coombe, Brocco Bank, Sheffield, and Miss Walmsley, The High School.—The following lecture has been arranged for the beginning of November, "Some aspects of Home Education," by Mrs. Manning.

Having a balance in hand, the committee have decided to spend it on educational books, which are to be circulated among the members during the coming session.

Particulars of succeeding meetings will be duly announced.

LEEDS BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs John Barran, Weetwood, Leeds.—The committee report that satisfactory and encouraging progress has been made by the branch during the past session. The number of members has increased from 25 at the beginning of 1893 to 61 at the present time. The lectures have had a fair average attendance, and much interest was evinced in them. The following lectures have been arranged for the session 1894-5:—October 23rd, 1894, Mrs. Spencer Curwen on "The application of Educational methods to Pianoforte teaching" (with illustrations.) November 20th, Miss Powell (Principal of the Girls' High School) on "The Relation of the School to the Home." January, Mrs. Miall on "French Teaching." February, Mrs. Creighton. March, Mr. T. G. Rooper. Miss Simpson will also give a course of addresses, "How to teach Natural History to Children," every

fortnight during Lent, if a sufficient number of names be sent in to the secretary. Fee (for the course of 4 lectures) 3s. 6d.

CARDIFF BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Greener, 1, Clare Street, Riverside.—A lecture was announced for October, on "The Feeding and Rearing of Infants and Young Children," by Dr. Sheen, Cardiff. A programme of lectures for the session is in preparation, and will appear next month.

SCARBOROUGH BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. G. Rowntree, 14, Valley Bridge.—A drawing-room meeting was summoned by the "Readers of the *Parents' Review* in Scarborough" for September 20th, when an address was delivered by Mrs. Francis Steinthal on "The P.N.E.U., and the advantages of having a branch in Scarborough." The Lord Bishop of Hull presided, and Mrs. J. E. Ellis of the Central Council, Rev. W. R. Raven Hart, and Messrs. Sandford and Kitching also spoke. Fifteen names were given in at the meeting, and others have since been added, making a total of about 50 members to start the branch. The programme for the season is as follows:—October 20th, "The Child Pianist," lecture by Mrs. J. Spencer-Curwen. November —, "The Teaching of a Language," by Mrs. Miall (Ben Rhydding) December —, "Food in Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence," by T. Godfrey, Esq., M.D. (In course of arrangement):—February —, "Nature, our Children's Friend," by Miss Simpson (Leeds.)

SOUTHPORT BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. James Dixon, 8, Preston Road.—An enthusiastic meeting was held at South Lawn, on the invitation of Lady Wheler, when an address was delivered by Mrs. Steinthal on "The History and Aims of the P.N.E.U." At the close of the meeting a branch was formed, of which Lady Wheler kindly consented to be president, twenty-three members being enrolled on the spot.

An interesting syllabus is being prepared for monthly meetings during the winter.

Natural History Club.—A course of lessons to children aged from 6 to 10 years, will be held in connection with this club, at the Natural History Museum, Cromwell road, on Wednesday afternoons, at 3, commencing Oct. 3rd. The class will be conducted by Miss Evans, student of House of Education, and the fee for the course £1 1*s.* 0*d.*, payable to Miss Paterson, 28, Victoria Street, S.W., to whom all applications should be addressed.

Miss Agnes Mason has by request consented to give a course of eight lectures, in Kensington, before Christmas, on "How to give religious instruction to children." The classes will be held at No. 3, Argyle road, by kind permission of Miss I'Anson, and will be limited in number. Particulars may be had on application to Mrs. Whitaker Thompson, 24, Argyle road. Fee for the course one guinea.

A class for children, from six to twelve, will be held at the Natural History Museum, by one of the Students of the House of Education, on Wednesdays, 2.45 to 3.45; commencing Oct. 3rd. Fee, £1/1/0 per ten lessons. For further particulars apply to Miss Paterson, 28, Victoria street, S.W.

The second annual exhibition of children's collections of flowers, fossils, shells and other natural objects; brushwork drawings illustrating the same, and natural history note-books will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24th, at the Church of England High School for Girls, Graham street, Eaton Square, S.W. (by kind permission of Miss Wolseley-Lewis). E. Sykes, Esq., Secretary of the Malachological Society, and Miss Whitley, have kindly promised to act as judges. Names of intending exhibitors should be sent *at once* to Mrs. Franklin, 9, Pembridge Gardens, W., who will also receive the collections &c., at her house, on Nov. 20th.

NOTE.—The Editor would like to call special attention to the above notice. Many children have this year made good collections during the holidays, and they are earnestly begged to allow these to be exhibited on the 24th.

Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send to the undersigned, without delay, reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, written on one side of the paper only, also 20 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

HENRY PERRIN, HON. ORG. SEC.,
8, CARLTON HILL,
LONDON, N.W.

THE

PARENTS' REVIEW

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
OF HOME-TRAINING AND CULTURE.

"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."

OUR CHILDREN'S HOLIDAYS.

A Paper read before the Sheffield Branch of the P.N.E.U.

BY MRS. MANNING.

How shall our children spend their holidays? This is a question of great interest to all parents in the present day. During term-time, school monopolises so large a share of our children's lives, the interests connected with school life are so much more varied and attractive than they used to be, that we feel sometimes as though we hardly saw enough of our children at home. The new modes of education are so infinitely preferable to those which obtained a quarter of a century ago, that I hardly like to find any fault with them; and yet, I think, as often happens when there is a great awakening on any subject, public opinion swings round, like a pendulum, too much to the other side. Formerly school education was dull and monotonous to the last degree, now our educational system seems to share the spirit of undue haste which characterises the age, and our children are just a little too restlessly eager to excel in many subjects at once, and parents and teachers alike, urged on partly by a genuine enthusiasm for wider culture, and partly by the requirements of competitive examinations, are a little too anxious to hurry the children on faster than is compatible with the healthy growth of the tender and delicate bodies